

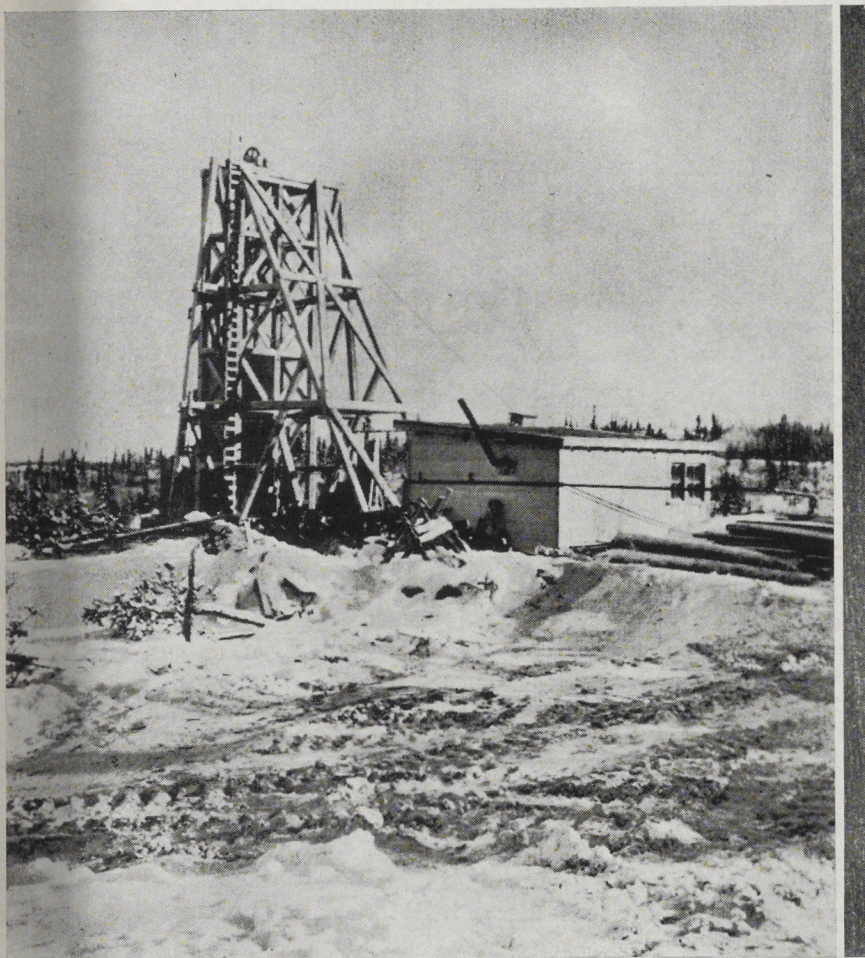
OR' WEST MINER

Monthly Devoted to Northern Mining Development in the Yellowknife,
Great Bear and Great Slave Lakes, Goldfields, Alberta and Northern B.C.,
Tourist and Game Hunting Attraction of Alberta.

Vol. VI.
No. 3.

May
1938.

RYAN SHAFT AT THE YELLOWKNIFE



25c A Copy

This shaft is being connected at the 250-foot level with the shaft on the "Con"
about 1,200 feet away, preparatory to mining the rich gold ore deposits.

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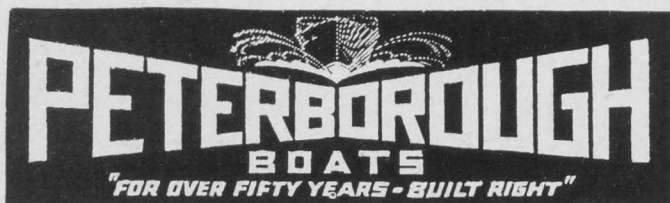
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"SAY'S THE MINER"

We draw attention to the reprint of an address given by the Hon. T. A. Crerar, Minister of Mines, Ottawa, on the "Prospector—His Place in Canada's Mining History".

* * *

His address is unique in the fact that he is the first Cabinet Minister to recognize the fact that Canada owes its huge mining development to the prospector, for without the prospector, capital would not have entered the picture, and without the prospector and capital combined, Canada would have had no mineral industry.

* * *

So "hats off", first to the prospector—he leads the way—then to any Government which will recognize the fact that the prospector must be aided directly and substantially, and then to capital, which uses its dollars to make more dollars.

* * *

Perhaps the most sentimental of the three, the one lacking in business instinct, is the prospector—he plays the game for what it is worth, seldom cashes in as he should, but counts the game well played as long as he does not die in the poorhouse. The Government has a certain amount of sentiment, for a prosperous mining industry means tax dollars and votes. The capitalist has no sentiment at all—he says, "If there are dollars in the ground and I can spend less dollars in the taking out, I'm for it."

* * *

After some forty years of viewing the business of finding a mine, it is suggested that the man to help, the man to get a real percentage of what he discovers, is the prospector. Let's help him.

* * *

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The Prospector—His Place in Mining Industry

By Hon. T. A. CRERAR, Minister of
Mines, Ottawa, Ont.

A few days ago a letter came to the Department. It was from an old prospector who had spent three years in northern British Columbia and the Northwest Territories without once coming "outside". He said: "I have spent 52 years in Northwestern Canada and have done rather more than my share of pioneering, but hope to do plenty more in the prospecting line. Just now I am having a real holiday in Victoria after being away for three years. The green grass and flowers look pretty good to us old timers from the north, but when spring comes, like the geese, we go back to the north and continue to chase for that pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. It's a good thing for us that we never lose sight of that little star of hope".

I could not help but think how typical this letter is of the spirit of the prospector, and how fortunate Canada has been in having men so imbued with those pioneering qualities, courage, hope and perseverance. Without such men and their certain belief that around the next bend of the river, or across the next divide, lies the Eldorado of their dreams, Canada's mining industry could never have grown to occupy the place in our economic life that it does to-day.

The story of mineral development in Canada forms one of the most romantic annals in the economic history of our country. Yet it is largely a story of the perseverance, courage and optimism of our prospectors. Mines are not easily found; they must be searched for. And nature, as if to challenge man's courage and ingenuity has, except in rare cases, hidden her treasures remote from beaten paths, among rugged mountains, and rocky and forested lands.

But the prospector, as if in answer to the whispered command "something lost behind the ranges, go and find it", has pushed on in the face of privation, loneliness, danger, and sometimes even death, in his treks to the Klondike, to the Pas in Manitoba, to Cobalt, to Porcupine, to Kirkland Lake, to Noranda, and to Great Bear

lake, far up in the Northwest Territories. And in his wake have sprung up mining camps and towns from which has come added wealth in the form of minerals to give new life and spirit to the nation.

Perhaps a clearer picture of the extent and rapid development of our mining industry can be gained when we realize that in 1900 the annual value of our minerals was around sixty-four millions of dollars. In 1910 it had increased to four hundred and fifty-seven millions.

The story of this development is largely a story of mineral discovery. I have said mines are not easy to find. Yet many fanciful tales are heard of the accidental discovery of rich mineral bodies. Sometimes a prospector, tracking a wounded animal to its den and waiting for him is a rich mineral vein or a pack-animal slips, and in the seat of the hoof-track lies a fortune. The truth is, however, that mines must be searched for, and searched for carefully—anything less will not do. And that is where the trained prospector comes in, and why more than we have at present are needed.

It is interesting to note that in 1660 de Troyes, while journeying up the east shore of Lake Temiskaming, was guided by Indians to a deposit of lead and silver now known as the Wright mine. Yet, on the opposite side of the narrows, and only a few miles away, lay the rich silver deposits of Cobalt that were not discovered until 1903.

In the Porcupine area the early fur traders and explorers for decades crossed and recrossed through the heart of what is now the Porcupine belt. It remained for trained prospectors like Alex. Gillies, Benny Hollinger, Sandy McIntyre, and others whose names to-day are known wherever mining men foregather to make the discoveries that have since made Porcupine one of the world's great gold camps.

The story of the discovery of the Hollinger is unique in showing the need of careful prospecting. In 1900 Gillies and Hollinger were prospecting

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**BELIEVE IT
OR NOT**

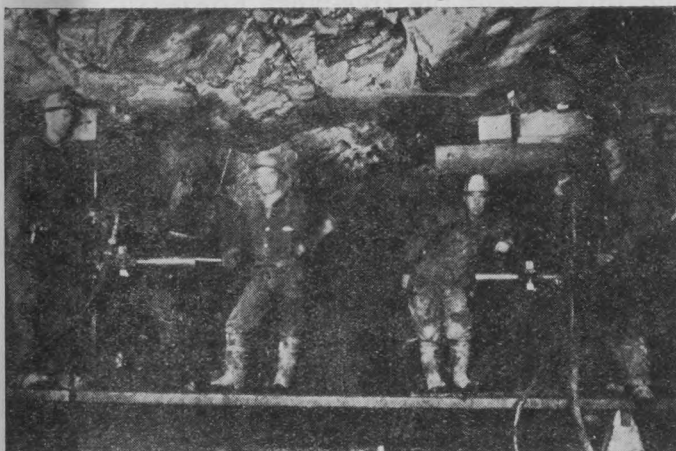
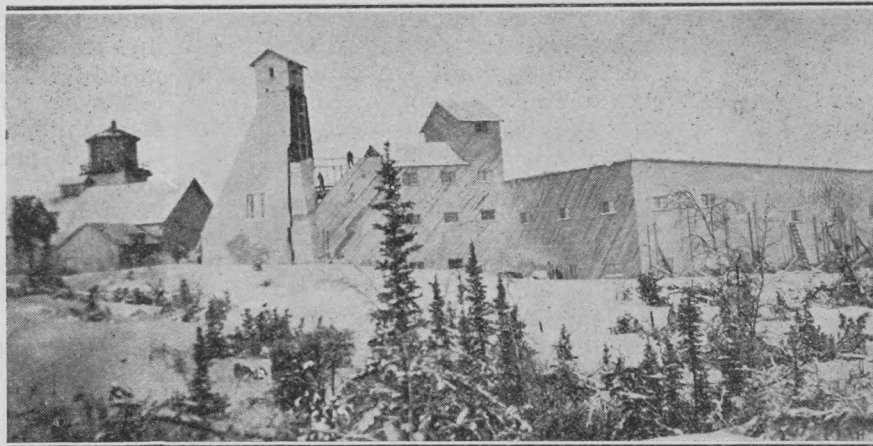
A prospector grub-
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DRIFTING ON THE RYAN AT 250 FT. LEVEL.

Oli Huka, "Buckshot"
J. W. Horan and C. M.
Anderson, the boys
handling the drills 250
feet below the surface
on the Ryan property.
They are drifting 1,200
feet at this level to con-
nect up the Ryan shaft
with the "Con" shaft.

in the vicinity of Pearl Lake, staking as they progressed although no gold as yet had been seen. On October 9th they came upon an old test pit, about four feet deep, alongside of which lay the rusty remains of an old forge and anvil. While Gillies was cutting a corner post, Hollinger, a short distance away, was clawing away the moss from a rock outcrop. Suddenly a cry of "gold" from Hollinger pierced the air. And free gold it was, everywhere but in the pit—and yet the bottom of the pit, when sampled and assayed yielded fifty-two dollars a ton! Thus was Porcupine born—a camp which up to date has produced over \$450,000,000, and is the scene of thriving mining towns.

Prospectors flocked in and overflowed in all directions. To the southeast in the Larder Lake and Kirkland Lake areas a few years later Bill Wright, Harry Oakes and the Tough Brothers were backing their discoveries with all the courage and capital at their command. On what is now the Lake Shore property, Harry Oakes was doggedly working although, as he expressed it, he didn't know whether he was developing a mine or a potato patch. Yet since the date of its discovery the Kirkland Lake camp has produced gold to the value of over \$256,000,000.

Geologists had definitely shown that the mineral-bearing belt of the Kirkland and Larder Lake areas continued eastward. Although gold was discovered by Oiler and Renault at Lake Fortune in 1911, nothing substantial developed, and it remained for Ed Horne to open up a new mining area for Canada by his discovery of the Horne Mine in 1922. From this discovery arose the Noranda mine, and the rich mines of Cadillac and Bourlamaque areas in Quebec. Out in Manitoba, Jack Hammell, Tom Creighton and Carl Sherritt were showing that the future of that province was not alone confined to her rich prairie lands. In British Columbia "Scotty" Dilworth and "Pat" Daly were proving the possibilities of the present Premier mine, while Fred Wells was disclosing sources of lode gold in the Barkerville area, an area long famous as a placer producer.

Soon afterwards came the airplane

to aid the prospector in his search. No longer need the prospector spend weeks and months of an all too short season reaching the scene of his activity. With the aid of air travel a prospecting party is landed on ground in a few hours or, at the most, a few days; supplies are flown in, and the party can be left in the field until freeze-up.

To Jack Hammell must go the credit for the first extensive use of the airplane, not only for prospecting, but for use in developing mines remote from transportation. As a result we see the opening up of mines in the Northwest Territories, and the hinterland of Ontario and Quebec which, in their initial stages, are almost entirely dependent upon the airplane.

A glance at a map of Canada now shows dotted all across the country the thriving mining camps, all of which are contributing substantially to the mineral output. And yet the area being developed in proportion to the possible total mineral bearing area is relatively small. It is apparent, therefore, that large areas remain to be intensively prospected. Even in the old camps more intelligent and careful development is revealing new mines.

However, it must be borne in mind that our minerals are a wasting asset and that once mined they cannot be replaced. We must, then, continue to find new mines and this is still a task for trained and experienced prospectors. It is necessary to realize also that although it has lost nothing of the color and romance of past years, the search for minerals to-day is a highly organized undertaking, demanding not only the exercise of every talent of the free-lance prospector, but the full use of available scientific knowledge.

In the early years of the industry and even until comparatively recent years, the search for minerals in Canada was carried on in a somewhat haphazard fashion. Time, energy and expense were too often wasted in areas having little promise of mineral wealth, while areas with promise were too hurriedly examined to warrant an opinion as to their possibilities. Then, too, prior to the advent of the airplane, and the outboard motor, a good part of the active prospecting was

"EVEN THE LADIES TAKE A HAND"

in developing the new gold
areas of Canada.

When the ladies arrive in a new mining camp it is generally taken as a sign that the new payroll town is in the making. Yellowknife, N.W.T., the coming gold camp of Canada, now numbers several ladies amongst its population, who, leaving behind the "comforts" of civilization, figure the free open spaces of the North a good place to pioneer.

PIONEERS OF YELLOWKNIFE

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wasted in travelling to and from the area to be examined.

But conditions have changed greatly in recent years. Seldom now do we hear of a prospector leaving for the field without first having familiarized himself with a knowledge of the area's possibilities from a study of geological maps and reports.

It is to assist and encourage the prospector that the Dominion Government and certain of the provinces, employ geologists to map and examine areas of possible mineral wealth throughout the country. Maps and reports containing the results of the field work are completed with every possible despatch, as the time factor has become all important in the modern search for minerals.

Strangely enough, reports published many years ago have played a notable part in some of the important discoveries of recent years. For instance, it was part of the contents of a report issued by the Geological Survey of Canada in 1900, which prompted Gilbert LaBine in 1930 to search for deposits of radium on the east shore of Great Bear Lake, Northwest Territories.

Again in 1900, attention was directed in a geological report, and also in another report issued several years later, to the possibilities of the Little Long Lac area, but the recommendations aroused little interest until 1931, when "Hardrock" Smith staked a discovery on the present site of Hardrock Gold Mines, Limited. Although the whole area was soon blanketed by stakers, it was not until 1932 that Tom Johnson and Tony Oklend discovered what is now the Little Long Lac mine. Another report issued in 1927 made special reference to the possibilities of an area in northern Manitoba. Guided by this, R. J. Jowsey, a veteran Canadian prospector, discovered the present God's Lake Gold mine a few years later.

Beyond question, such geological information has greatly assisted the prospector. Nevertheless, in the end, the finding of new mines is wholly dependent upon the prospector. It is clear, then, that we must allow him as much freedom of action as it is possible to give him. He is willing to acknowledge that certain regulatory measures are necessary in the public

interest, but he becomes discouraged when he has to meet petty and harassing regulations.

It has been the experience of every important mineral producing country that the prospector does his best work under conditions free from hampering legislative restrictions. Furthermore, most of the important discoveries of the past have been made by the so-called "grub stake," or free lance prospector. Perhaps in the future the highly organized prospecting expeditions may obtain important results. Nevertheless, there will always be need for the "lone" prospector.

But the task of finding new mines must not be left to the prospector alone. He requires, and is entitled to, a fair reward for his courage and toil. And it is here that capital can, and must, come to the aid of the industry.

The development of a prospect to the stage where it becomes a mine requires money; and as a rule the average prospector has little beyond his season's requirements, small though that is—usually not more than \$1,000 or \$1,500. The prospector must be able to sell his claims. Capital must, if our mining industry is to continue to expand, show at least a degree of courage comparable with that of the prospector. True, the disappointments of mining investment have been many—not every good prospect develops into a mine—on the other hand, when a mining venture proves successful the monetary rewards are great.

The Federal and Provincial Governments are assisting the prospector by providing him with geological maps and technical assistance in the form of devising the best methods of ore treatment. A fair and equitable system of taxation, coupled with reasonable mining regulations should assure the public confidence. Because of this basis for the orderly development of the industry, many of the hazards for capital are removed.

It is evident by reason of its climate and soil conditions that the future of the greater part of northern Canada must centre about the mineral industry—a future which depends upon the prospector, and his partners, labor and capital. Little or nothing is known as yet of the mineral resources of large sections of British Columbia

Before and After the
Prospector

1926

The beginning of Noranda mine in Quebec in 1926, after a prospector put his stakes into virgin territory.



1936

Ten Years After . .

This is how it looks
today

Noranda Mine. Rouyn P.Q. after capital came to the aid of the prospector, and made a real producing mine out of the bush of the Hinterland of Quebec.

Had it not been for the prospector, Ed Horne, Noranda would have still been vacant bushlands of Quebec. Instead Noranda Mine opened up a new and unknown mineral area to the prospector.



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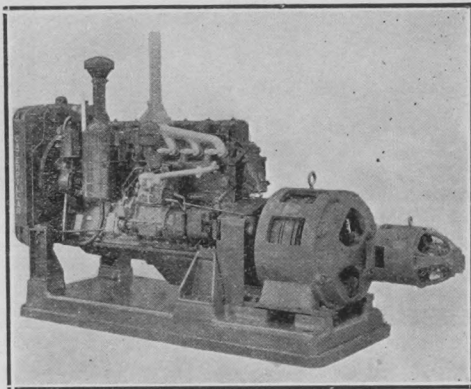
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(Left) Delmar Nelson, the first prospector to cross the Barren Lands from the Coppermine to Churchill on the Atlantic Coast. Delmar made the trip alone. With him, T. Thompson, Yellowknife.



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The latest addition to Northern service is a complete system of refrigeration transportation and cold storage. E. A. Butler, of Yellowknife, has installed up-to-date boats and cold storage to service the Northern mines with fresh meats and other perishable products.

During the last year, he has established butchering yards at Vermilion Shutes, where cattle from the Peace are slaughtered and then shipped by boat to the various mining points in the North.

Before this service was established practically the only meat available in the country was local game, but with this service the mines are now enabled to obtain fresh meats as required.

During the closed navigation season, Mr. Butler uses aeroplane transportation to reach the mines. He says that the cattle in the Peace are remarkable for quality, better than any he has ever seen and is emphatic in his belief that the real solution for the economical handling of supplies into the north is by means of a winter road north from Grimshaw.

TAR SANDS FOR EDMONTON ROADS

The time is approaching when the question of more road surfacing for Edmonton streets will be to the fore, and perhaps it may be timely to suggest that on all public paving contracts, the use of Alberta Tar Sands be considered in preference to imported material. These tar sands have already been used with success in Edmonton, and an extended further use of the same will provide work for many.

REINDEER HERD INCREASES

The Dominion Government has fully justified its action in moving reindeer to the Mackenzie River from Alaska. It is stated that good grazing conditions and selective breeding has increased the dressed weight of the animals from 150 lbs. to 165 lbs. (average) in two years and that this weight is expected to increase in later years. After allowing for usual losses incidental to herding and the annual slaughter for local Eskimo needs, the original herd of 2,370 has increased to 4,000 at the 1937 roundup.

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**PEACE RIVER TO YELLOWKNIFE
BY AIR . . .**

C. W. Fredericks, editor of the Peace River Record, visited Edmonton recently. He explained fully what the people of the Peace had in mind concerning direct air and road connection between Peace River and the Yellowknife and other point north including the Lower Mackenzie and the Arctic. He said, in part: Peace River intends to go after this northern business, and is entitled to get it on the ground that the shortest route to the North (Yellowknife) is via Peace River.

We have organized an air company, have two Waco planes on order and have registered this new air route at Ottawa and we intend to show the mining population of the North that via Peace River is the logical way to travel north. He added: "We have 34 chartered trips already booked and expect the first plane to leave Peace River on the 20th June next. He pointed out that the Peace has the edge on the McMurray route for the reason that it has a tri-weekly train service instead of one a week.

**SHORTEST AIR, ROAD OR
RIVER ROUTE**

"Yes" said a prominent northerner to Peace River people. "You have the shortest route to the Yellowknife by either air, road or water. You also have three trains a week service to Peace River." He added: "It is only a question of time when the air com-

panies will have to locate at Peace River and service the North from there if they intend to give real service."

**FLY FROM PEACE
RIVER**

Passengers bound for the Yellowknife should consider the Peace River route into the field.

It's shorter, cheaper and has a tri-weekly train service.

Particulars can be obtained by addressing the Chamber of Commerce, Peace River, Alta.

**TUMWATA GORDON LAKE
GROUP**

Holds 12 claims at Gordon Lake. Officials state wide vein has been opened up on property with free gold in evidence. No assays at present.

**WILL SPEND \$100,000 CON-
SERVING WILD LIFE.**

Ducks Unlimited (Canada), it is stated, is about to embark upon a \$3,000,000 program over the next five years, with an initial expenditure of \$100,000 in 1938, for the purpose of aiding in the conservation of wild life, especially of wild fowl in the breeding grounds of Western Canada.

The program includes restoration and maintenance of water areas, prevention of forest and prairie fires, protection of nesting areas, destruction of crows and other predatory animals, research and observations of disease.

The company is an offshoot of an organization known as More Game Birds in America Foundation.

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OIL IN ALBERTA

By J. L. Irwin

The history of Alberta's oil industry started as early as the year 1878, when Professor Dawson of the Dominion Government Geological Survey reported on oil occurrences found by him in the Athabaska district.

Later Dr. Bell of the same department made reference to the bituminous sands which he thought to have been caused by an upwelling of petroleum, perhaps unparalleled anywhere in the world. He thought these sands were at least five million years old and that they had been subjected to a constant soaking of oil from seepages below, otherwise, he was of the opinion, they would have dried out and become dead many years ago.

However, it was not until 1885 that drilling resulted in the discovery of dry gas at Langevin, now known as Alderson, situated about forty miles northwest of Medicine Hat, and it was some five years later—1890—that the first productive gas well was drilled at Medicine Hat by the Canadian Pacific Railway, when at a depth of 650 feet a pressure of 250 pounds was obtained.

Notwithstanding the quality of gas that has been withdrawn from this field, substantial pressure is still maintained.

On the recommendation of its geologists the Dominion Government drilled a well in 1896 at Athabaska Landing. This was abandoned at 1,200 feet owing to casing trouble, although a gas flow had been struck. At a later date the drilling outfit was taken down the Athabaska River and another hole was drilled near the head of the Pelican Rapids. A strong flow of gas was encountered at 750 feet which blew the tools out of the hole and caught fire. The fire, which continued for several years, was eventually extinguished by a representative of the Dominion Government and the well was capped.

The Bow Island gas field, some fifty miles west of Medicine Hat, had its first well drilled in 1900. Four years later the northern field at Pelican Rapids was attempted again by a private enterprise. Three wells in all were drilled and an oil and gas belt was located.

At the time this discovery was made the nearest railway was at Edmonton, over 300 miles away. The transfer of heavy machinery by teaming and scows over the hazardous rapids of the Athabaska River represented a pioneer feat well worthy of mention.

The first discovery of oil in Alberta to attract outstanding attention took place in 1913 when the Calgary Petroleum Producers brought two wells into production in Turner Valley. One was at a depth of 1,557 feet and the other 2,718 feet. The product secured, though the limestone was not reached, showed strong evidence of naphtha mixed with a crude oil of high gravity. Following these discoveries the oil boom of 1913-1914 was started to be halted only by the war.

During the war the only discovery of particular note was the proving of the commercial dry gas field of Viking, some eighty miles southeast of Edmonton, from which the gas requirements of Edmonton and towns in proximity of the pipe-lines have been supplied ever since.

In 1922 the progress of the Kevin-Sunburst field in Montana revived interest in Alberta and operations were once more resumed in Turner Valley. It was at this time that the now famous Royalite No. 4 well was started.

Indications in the several crude oil horizons reached by Royalite No. 4 not proving spectacular, drilling was continued to 3,450 feet, at which point the Palaeozoic limestone was encountered. A prevalent theory in world oil circles at this time was that it was useless to look for oil production in a limestone body below the first 150 to 200 feet after this particular formation was penetrated.

Drilling, however, was continued to a depth of 400 feet in the limestone when it was decided to abandon the well. Before orders to this effect reached the drillers, a porous zone was struck at 3,740 feet, from the surface of which there suddenly issued a violent outburst of wet gas which prevented the tools from being withdrawn and immediately afterwards from some unknown cause the well caught fire which took some time to extinguish.

The magnitude of the find and the quality of the product, hitherto unknown in any oil producing area, was classed as a freak and many skeptical forecasts were made that the flow of naphtha would not be of long duration and also that similar production was improbable in other wells which might be drilled in the area.

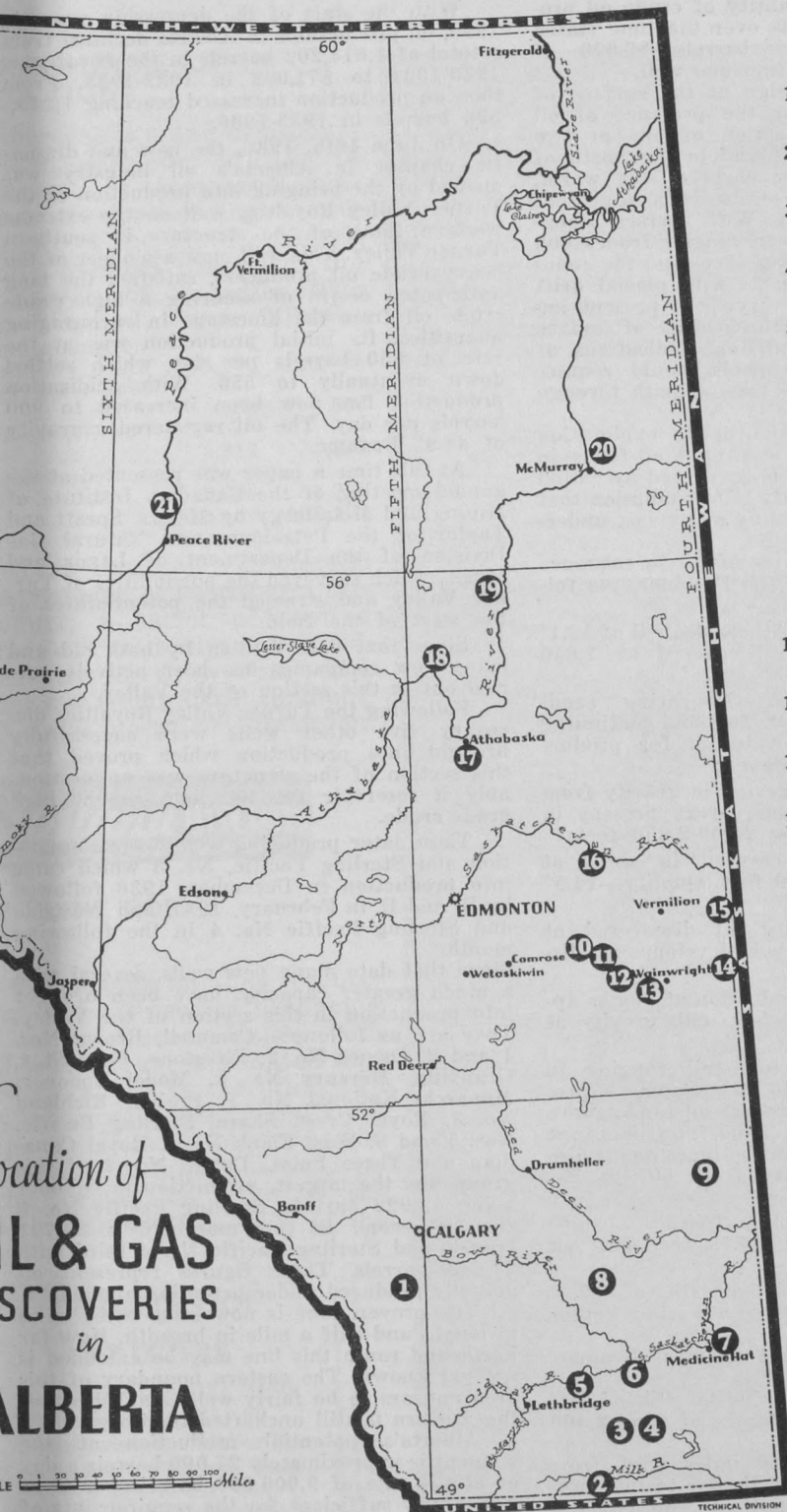
Royalite No. 4, however, once under control increased its production until it reached a maximum flow of about 600 barrels of naphtha a day and demonstrated its permanence by producing for a period of over six years. During that time it presented the industry with a total yield of 911,313 barrels of naphtha, valued at over \$3,000,000.00.

For over a year the importance of this discovery was not appreciated, but during 1925 and 1926 interest in oil development returned and a number of new wells were started. The completion at a still later date of Okalta No. 1 well on the west flank of the Turner Valley structure and Home No. 1 in the south end, approximately three miles from Royalite No. 4, revealed the full significance of Royalite's performance and another oil boom was launched. Drilling in the Valley became extremely active and continued until the beginning of the depression years in 1930 slowed down progress.

From the start of Royalite No. 4's production until the end of December 1935, approximately 180 wells were started in this area of which 50% only were completed. The remainder were abandoned either on account of lack of capital or because of the fact that the well sites were off structure.

Naphtha recoveries during this time totalled 6,453,089 barrels of which approximately one-seventh came from Royalite No. 4 alone.

This production came from the limestone formation before reaching which, the wells penetrated four distinct crude oil producing sands. In addition to the naphtha recoveries



KEY TO MAP

1. **Turner Valley.** Producing oil and gas field.
2. **Red Coulee.** Producing oil field; light crude.
3. **Skiff.** Heavy crude oil. Not producing.
4. **Foremost.** Gas field-reserve.
5. **Barnwell.** Small gas field.
6. **Bow Island.** Gas field being repressured from Turner Valley.
7. **Medicine Hat.** Gas field supplies city.
8. **Brooks.** Small gas field.
9. **Oyen.** Showings of heavy oil. Not developed.
10. **Viking.** Gas field supplies Edmonton.
11. **Kinsella.** Proven gas field not yet in use.
12. **Fabyan.** Two wells-supply Wainwright with gas.
13. **Wainwright.** Producing oil field. Heavy crude.
14. **Dina.** One producing oil well and others drilling.
15. **Lloydminster.** Gas produced on Saskatchewan side of boundary used in town.
16. **Duvernay.** Gas discovery may prove a field.
17. **Athabasca.** Heavy oil discovered but not developed.
18. **Smith.** Gas discovered but not developed.
19. **Pelican.** Gas discovered.
20. **McMurray.** Vast deposit of tar sands.
21. **Peace River.** Heavy oil, not developed. Also little gas.
22. **Pouce Coupe.** Gas discovered.

already quoted the quantity of crude oil produced from these sands over the time stated amounted to 374,906 barrels—80,000 of which were obtained from one well.

Alberta shows no sign at the surface of the ground to indicate the presence of oil beneath with the exception of one or two insignificant seepages found in the north of the Province. In other parts of the world, sign-posts of nature have always been present to guide the prospector. With surface topography in Alberta, however, ranging from 2,000 feet and higher above sea level and the country covered in most parts with glacial drift below while there is everywhere present impervious beds of shale, the absence of surface indications is not surprising. Indications of oil from underground pools would require tremendous pressure to force a path through such strata.

In spite of this handicap to exploration the many and widely separated oil-fields in Alberta, which have been discovered by "blind groping" methods, justify the assumption that the province is underlain by many vast underground seepages.

Taking the discoveries of oil in sequence from north to south of the Province, the following sites are named:—

1. **Near the town of Athabaska.** Oil of 12.1° gravity, Beaume, discovered at 1,650 feet;
2. **Duvernay-Brosseau.** Oil-bearing sands commencing at 1,490 feet and continuing to 2,020 feet—not tested for productivity—wells abandoned;
3. **Wainwright.** Oil varying in gravity from 18° to 23° Beaume, is at present in production. Depths; 2,100-2,250 feet;
4. **Ribstone.** Oil discovered in wells at depths: 1,800-1,900 feet. Quality—14.5° Beaume;
5. **Oyen.** Low gravity oil discovered at 3,080-3,133 feet but development discontinued;
6. **Tabor.** Wells in production at depths approximating 3,200 feet with gravity at 29° Beaume.
7. **Turner Valley.** Crude oil ranging in gravity from 35° to 55° Beaume is produced from four distinct oil sands above the limestone and from the limestone itself. Naphtha from the limestone is also produced in gravity from 60° to 75° Beaume.
8. **Pekisko.** Crude oil, 40°-45° Beaume gravity, proven at 3,878 feet but not developed.
9. **Keho**—near Lethbridge. Oil of 32.4° Beaume gravity, proven at various depths below 3,680 feet.
10. **Skiff.** Oil of 20° gravity Beaume, proven at 3,054 feet.
11. **Red Coulee**—near Coutts. Oil of 31° gravity Beaume at depths of from 2,400 to 2,500 feet.
12. **Twin River.** Twenty miles west from Coutts. Gravity very similar to that produced at Red Coulee. Depth approximately 3,875 feet.
13. **Spring Coulee**—near Cardston. Oil of light gravity encountered during drilling at 4,500 and 4,660 feet.

With the start of the depression years in 1930, oil productions in Alberta declined from a total of 1,614,202 barrels in the fiscal year 1930-1931 to 871,082 in 1932-1933. From then on production increased reaching 1,249,596 barrels in 1935-1936.

On June 16th, 1936, the new and dramatic chapter in Alberta's oil industry was opened by the bringing into production of the Turner Valley Royalties well on the extreme western flank of the structure in southern Turner Valley. This well, now a pioneer of the heavy crude oil producers, satisfied the long anticipated desire of securing a high grade crude oil from the limestone in encouraging quantities. Its initial production was at the rate of 850 barrels per day which settled down eventually to 550. With acidization production has now been increased to 900 barrels per day. The oil registered a gravity of 44.9° Beaume.

At this time a paper was presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy by Messrs. Spratt and Taylor of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Division of the Department of Lands and Mines, which surveyed the possibilities of Turner Valley and stressed the potentialities of the west of the field.

Since that date drilling by both old and many new companies has been actively carried out in this section of the Valley.

Following the Turner Valley Royalties discovery five other wells were successfully brought into production which proved that this section of the structure was unquestionably a reservoir for the long sought high grade crude.

These later producing wells were Foundation and Sterling Pacific, No. 3 which came into production in December, 1936 followed by B. and B. in February, 1937, and Westside and Sterling Pacific No. 4 in the following month.

Since that date many new wells, several with a much greater capacity, have been brought into production in this section of the Valley. They are as follows:—Commoil, Brown-Nos. 1 and 2, Davies No. 2, Firestone, Four Star, Granville, Mercury No. 8, Model Spooner, Monarch, National No. 1, Prairie, Richland No. 3, Royal Crest, Share, Sterling Pacific, Nos. 5 and 6, West Flank No. 1, Royal Canadian and Three Point. Davies No. 2 of this group was the largest, production in October being 48,992 barrels, Sterling Pacific No. 5 coming second in this month with 39,791 barrels and Sterling Pacific No. 4 third with 31,648 barrels. These figures represent oil actually produced under proration applied.

The proven zone is now some three miles in length and half a mile in breadth. How far north and south this line may be extended is not yet known. The eastern boundary of this area appears to be fairly well established but the western is still uncharted territory.

Alberta's potential production at the moment is approximately 25,000 barrels a day or at the rate of 9,000,000 barrels per year. A quantity sufficient for the requirements of the three prairie provinces and equivalent to one-quarter of the Dominion's consumption.

(Continued in June Issue.)

ENDOUS INCREASE IN RODUCTION

ked increase is noted in produc-
f crude petroleum in Alberta
January, as compared with
y last year, according to the
y report of the Mining, Metal-
l and Chemical Branch of the
ion Bureau of Statistics. The
tion, classified, was as follows:

Valley, production		
Limestone	440,105	124,748
Valley, other light		
	869	966
ilee-Border-Keho,		
crude	1,214	1,022
ight-Ribstone,		
crude	2,008	1,241
als	555,196	127,977
	* * *	

cribed as the first commercial
ent for export of an Alberta tar-
product, a carlot of roofing
al made from bitumen left Ed-
n recently for Crow Point, Ind.
oduct was treated at Bitumount,
330 miles north of Edmonton.



PIPE LINE FOR LITE.

ew 6-inch pipe line has recently
ompleted connecting producing
ells in the Turner Valley with
yalite Refinery. It is stated that
pe line, added to the other two
ch lines, will increase daily de-
capacity from 14,000 to 24,000
er day. Naturally this must in-
the proportion allowed the
which at present is 40 % of the
flow.

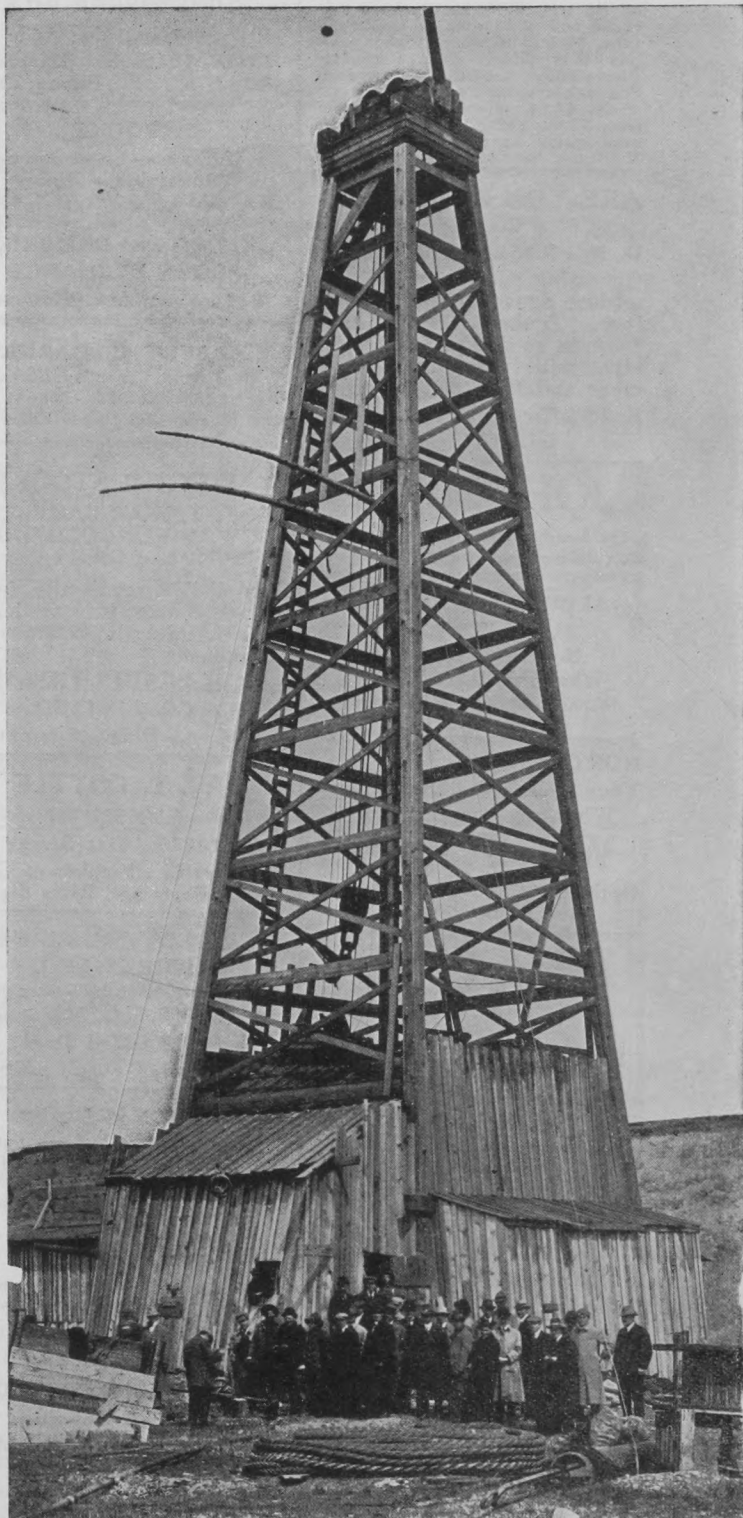
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DRILLING AT POUCE COUPE.

Western Securities Led., of Calgary, are undertaking an oil development at Pouce Coupe, two miles west of the old Imperial well which came in with much noise some years ago and was subsequently capped. J. Wickstram, contractor, is shipping a rotary drill on to the Western Securities property which it is stated, consists of 50,000 acres of oil leases.

THAT ROAD TO GREAT SLAVE

"Yes" says the Provincial Government, we will build provided Ottawa co-operates. "Yes" says Ottawa, we will co-operate provided? Who knows what should be provided? Sounds almost like Charlie Stewart and the Jasper highway of years gone by. In the meantime much freight, many miners and others are looking with anxiety for something to happen north of Grimshaw. Perhaps if "Jim McKinnon" is paged at Ottawa, he will tell the story of why? No winter road as yet to Great Slave? Are we going to

get it? Sure, otherwise it's going to be too bad for Ottawa and other politicals if we do not when they count the ballots the next time.

ELDORADO BALANCE SHEET

Eldorado balance sheet as submitted to annual meeting shows:—

Capital expenditures	\$347,327
Plant and equipment development	\$121,914
Cash on hand Dec. 31 1937	\$ 42,825
Accounts receivable	\$101,219
Radium on consignment etc.	\$145,299
Inventory of finished products	\$364,568
Concentrates at mine, in transit and at refinery	\$528,627
Stores and supplies	\$293,971
Investments market value	\$ 71,220
Assets.	
Balance receivable from underwriters	\$521,104
Current liabilities	\$1,027,083
Operating statement shows net profit of \$237,429 or 6.3c per share.	

**Our order and shipping departments
specialize in north country orders . . .**

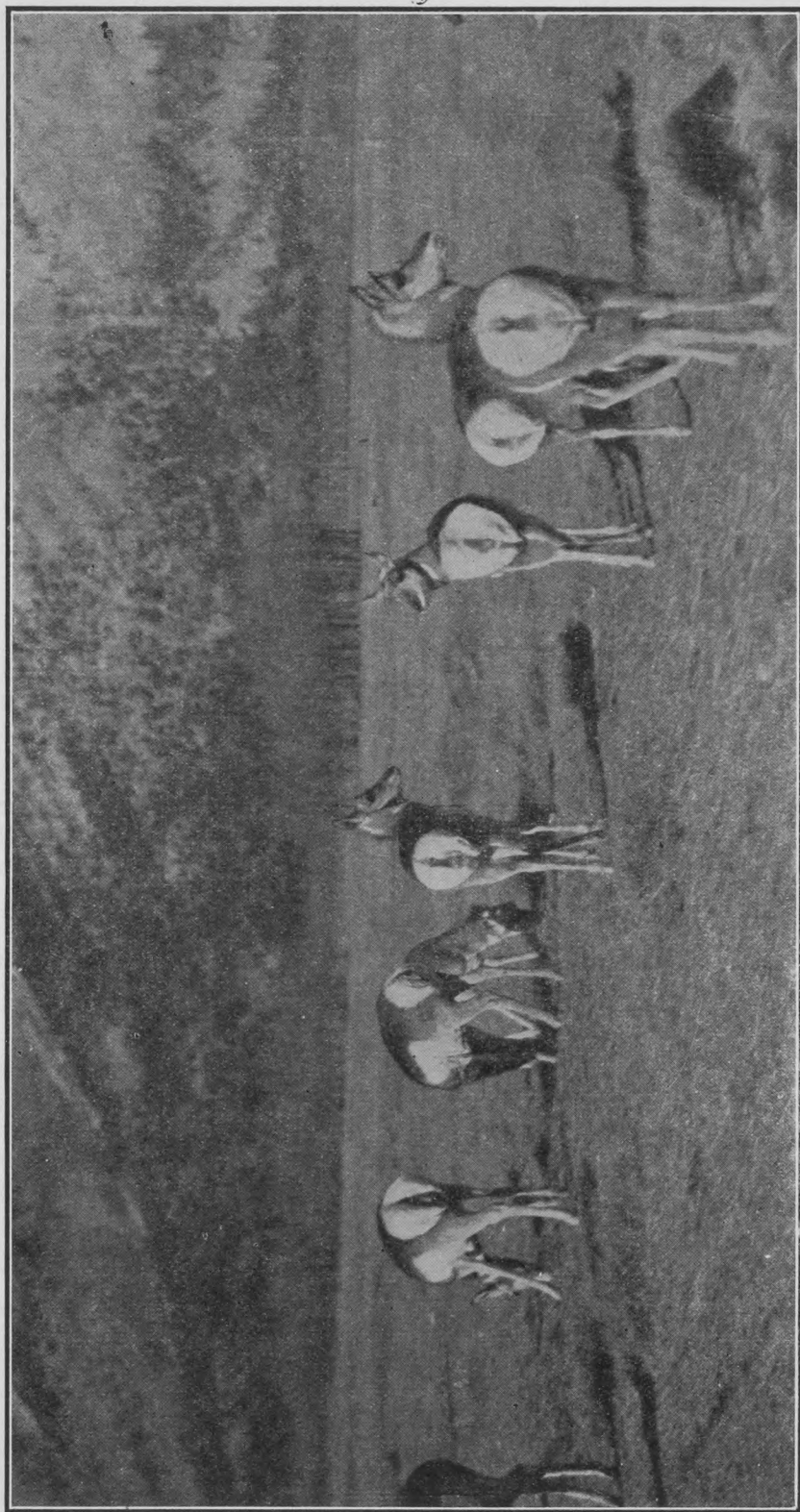
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ANTELOPE ROAM THE SOUTHERN PLAINS OF ALBERTA



Southern Alberta, famous for its Turner Valley oil gushers, is also the home of the graceful, nimble-footed antelope, which gives many a thrill to the hunter, as he speeds over the wide open ranges of Southern Alberta. Speedier than a motor car the antelope gives great sport.



FISHERY REGULATIONS

In the interests of the conservation of the fisheries of Alberta the following rules and regulations are laid down.

Fees—Non Resident \$2.25 per annum.
Resident \$2.25 per annum.

Badge must be worn and permit carried on person.

Open Seasons:—

North from International Boundary to Bow River, June 1st to Sept. 30th each year.

Red Deer District, 16th May to 15th Sept.

Athabasca River, 1st June to 15th Oct.

Lake Trout, May 16th to Sept. 15th.

Pike, Pickerel etc., May 16th to March 31st.

No export, sale, trade or barter allowed on angling licenses.

Size limits:—Cut Throat and other trout, Grayling or Rocky Mountain white-fish, nothing less than 8" to be retained.

Lake Trout—nothing less than 15" to be retained.

Bag Limits:—

Trout, not more than 20 per diem.

Lake Trout, not more than 10 per diem.

Perch, Goldeye, 25 per diem.

Pike and Pickerel, 15 per diem.

For copies of regulations address

DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES

GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA.

EDMONTON, ALBERTA.

ORA PLATA DEVELOPS

Ora Plata Mining Corporation is developing the "Meg" and the "Lilex" groups in the Yellowknife district. Annual meeting of the company held in Toronto reviewed progress as follows:

"Sampling of surface showings is in progress and interesting results obtained." Very high grade over narrow widths together with others of lower grade. Two holes drilled, with one cutting vein about 80 feet vertical depth. Here vein widened to two feet but carried low values. The other hole cut the same vein directly under the first intersection at a vertical depth of 100 feet and showed considerable free gold.

Meg and Lilex groups are adjacent to Cons. property, Negus property, Yellowex and Kamlac.

GALLOWAY GORDON (N.W.T.) MINES

This company reports its properties lay east of Camlaren in the Yellowknife area. Vein found on one group has reported length of 1,500 feet and width of 20 feet, grab samples giving high values.

PITCHBLEND E AT ELDORADO.

Reports from Eldorado continue to be very encouraging. It is stated that at the 250-foot level a 130-foot length of ore has been opened up with widths of 42 inches of massive pitchblende. It is apparent, officials state, that this ore goes right through from the surface to the depth reached in underground development.

At the annual meeting the president stated: "It will be observed that, while the liabilities of the company have been increased by virtue of the necessary capital expenditures the balance receivable from the underwriters at 31st December, 1937, was in excess of the requirements to meet bank loans made to finance the speeded-up expansion program. By arrangement, these bank loans mature simultaneously with the due dates of the underwriter's agreement. It was also considered advisable not to include in

earned surplus the value of the ore partially processed at the mine during 1936 and 1937 and having an estimated value of \$948,668. This substantial asset will be gradually absorbed into the accounts as realized."

NEGUS GOLD MINES LIMITED

This company reports assays over an average width of 20 inches running from .12 to 4.53 ounces. Shaft is being carried out north and south of vein. Equipment for a 50-ton mill has been delivered at Waterways to go down the river at early opportunity.

SURVEY TO BE MADE

Will extend rails at least 50 miles north of Grimshaw towards Great Slave Lake.

The Nor' West Miner has good authority for stating that there will be a survey made for an extension of the N. A. Railway, north from Grimshaw or some point nearby to at least 50 miles north towards Great Slave Lake. \$17,000 have been included in the estimates at Ottawa for this purpose and engineers are already on the ground arranging for survey.

IT WILL PAY YOU TO INVESTIGATE

In view of the active development going on in the mining North, why not enquire concerning the well located properties in the Goldfields district.

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GAME BIRDS OF ALBERTA

Fast on the wing, past master in concealment, the Alberta Partridge furnishes ideal shooting in the fall. The fellow behind the gun must know how to use it as these fellows break cover in their winged rush for safety. The native partridge flock of Alberta

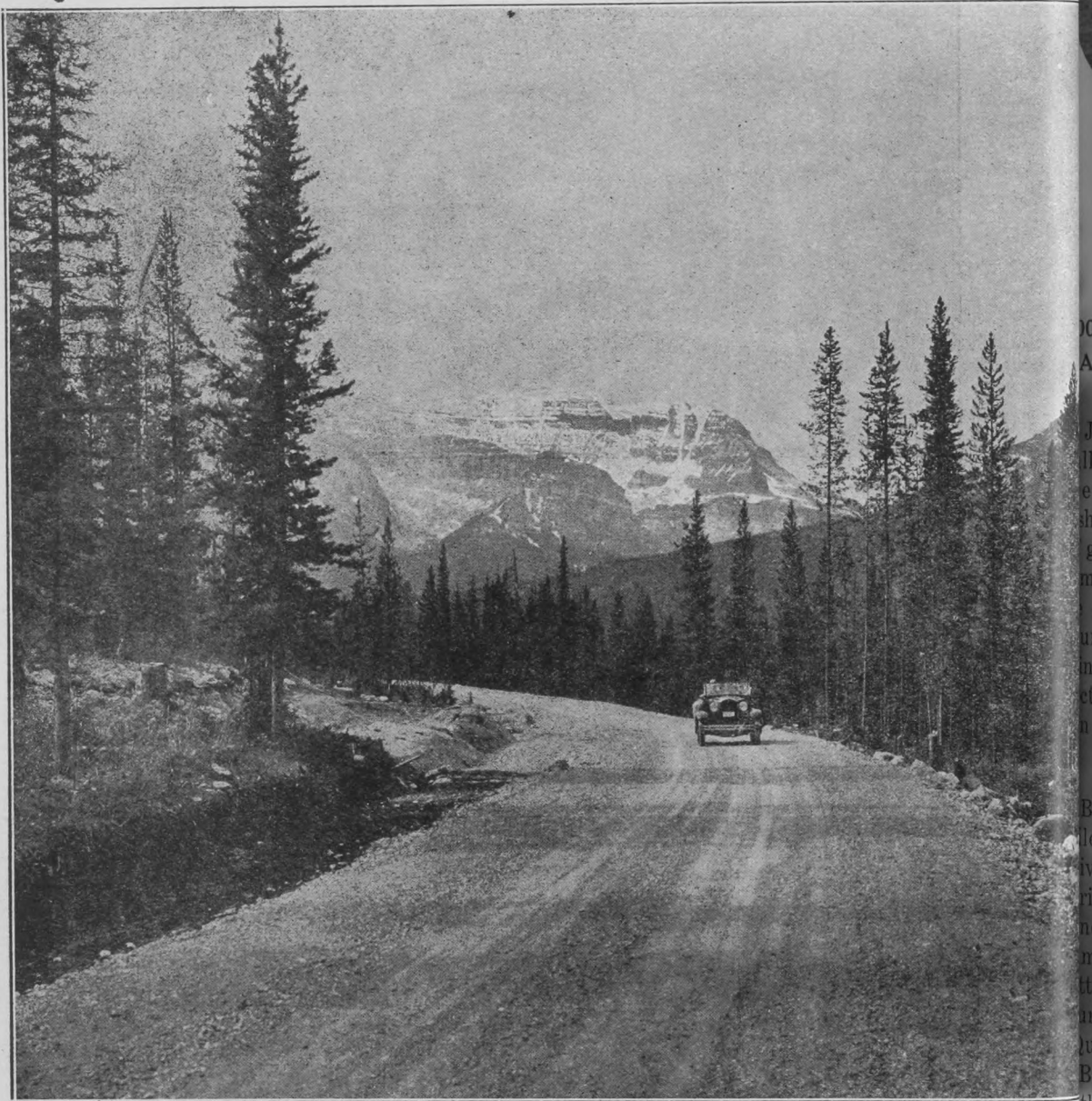
has, in recent years, been increased by the importation of Hungarian Partridge through the efforts of the Government and the game associations of Alberta.

Add to these geese, duck, snipe and other wild fowl which use Alberta lakes as breeding grounds and Alberta's bird life is complete from a hunter's point of view.



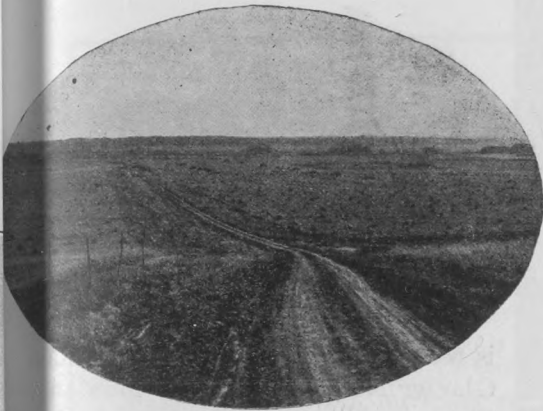
Monarch of all he surveys is this noble Elk, a denizen of the National Parks of Alberta. In the foothills of the Rockies they run wild to be hunted in the fall when the crisp sunlit air makes open hunting a joy.

GOOD ROADS IN PERFECT SETTINGS



Highways in Alberta have been especially designed to connect the most attractive parts of this scenic Province with the highways of the United States.

They open up to an unusual degree the scenic attractions of the great farming areas, the oil fields of the South and the splendid rugged scenery of the Canadian Rockies.



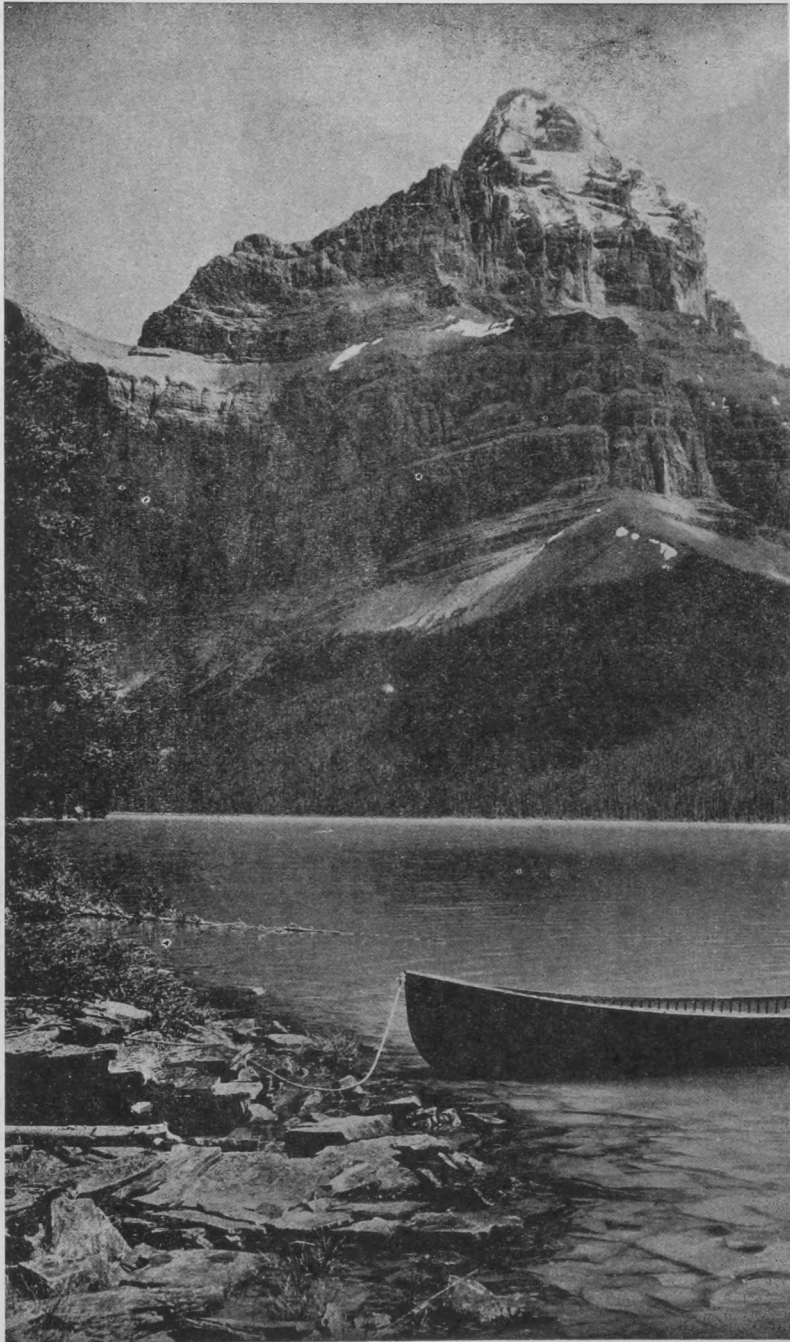
When Summer calls, the mountains and parks of Alberta present wonderful holiday playgrounds to all.

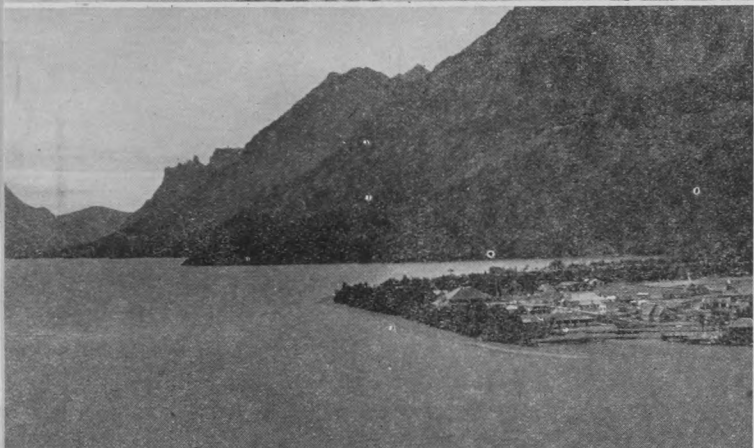
1000 SQUARE MILES OF NATIONAL PARKS

Jasper Park (4,200 sq. miles) is fully equipped with everything that the holiday seeker wants. Splendid fishing, golf course and a panorama of glorious mountain scenery, where almost every kind of big game can be seen roaming the hills. Modern tourist accommodations, good roads, and finding packtrails complete the picture. 230 miles west of Edmonton on a good road.

Banff National Park (2,500 sq. miles), has 150 miles of motor roads within its boundaries. Hot springs, swimming pools, fishing, canoeing, boating, golf, ski-ing, numerous fine hotels, cabins and cottages offering real comfort to the tourist entitles Banff to the title "Queen Centre of the Rockies." Banff is 85 miles from Calgary, with good motor road connecting it with the U.S. highways.

(Mt. Robson, Jasper National Park)





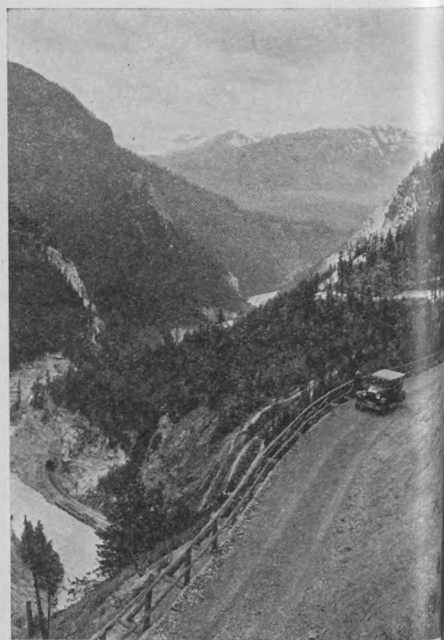
A SURE BAG

Sure bags of Rainbow, Dolly Varden, Kamloops and Cut Throat trout are always obtainable in Jasper and Banff National Parks and in Waterton Lakes. Thanks to the stocking of lakes and rivers in these parks by the Dominion Government, many waters previously barren of fish now contain these fish in plenty. Fishing is open to all during the season with only a nominal license fee to pay for the privilege.

WHERE RUGGED MOUNTAINS ENCIRCLE CRYSTAL CLEAR LAKES

Waterton Lakes (220 sq. miles), is really an extension of the famous Glacier National Park of Montana. Fishing, boating, scenic splendor combine to make a real holiday setting. It is 35 miles from Cardston with its famous Mormon temple, on good highway.

Elk Island Park. One hour's ride from Edmonton. Here buffalo, moose, elk and deer roam in sanctuary. The park is enclosed with 34 miles of nine-strand buffalo proof wire fencing. Golf, canoeing, boating and camping offer a real attraction.



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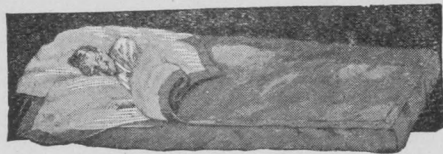
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GOLD PRODUCTION GAINS

Increase in gold production for Canada from 638,619 fine ounces in first two months of 1937 to 701,924 fine ounces in corresponding period in 1938 is noted from Ottawa reports. The report also states the Goldfields mill of the Cons Mining and Smelting Co. is near completion and will be in operation within the next few months.

First commercial production of gold from N.W.T. will be recorded when recently completed 100-ton mill at Con Property, Yellowknife, goes into operation directly fuel oil arrives at opening of navigation on Lower River.

SHOULD GOLD BE EXPORTED

Recently a plea was made at Ottawa that more currency be issued instead of exporting gold from Canada. Is it not a fact that Canada which now has a very large gold production from its mines, instead of using this increase in Canadian gold holdings, exports it as fast as it is obtained, notwithstanding the fact that Dominion currency is controlled by gold reserves as to issue. If the increased gold production was kept at home, and purchased by

the Bank of Canada, more currency on the basis of 4 to 1 could be issued. Two per cent of this new money might perhaps be used to develop more mines and open up new mining areas from a public point of view and the balance to retire internal loans and improve Labor conditions by large public works programs. Think it over.

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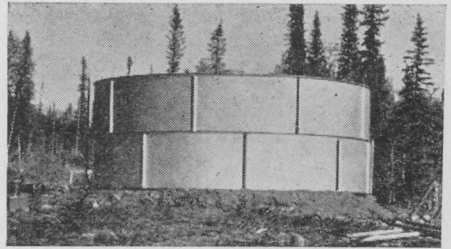
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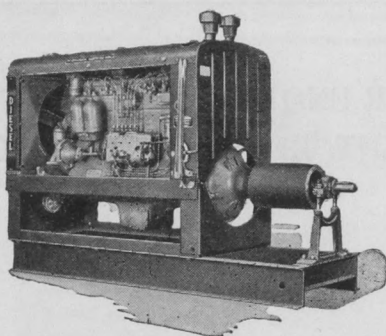
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forms of power. It will pay you to investigate this International Diesel engine which starts as a gasoline engine and converts itself automatically to Diesel operation. Come in and let us tell you about it. The International line also includes power units from 12 to 115 h.p. with gasoline engines which can be equipped to burn natural gas.

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RIGHT DOWN TO THE ARCTIC

Industry rears its head, even on the shores of the far away Arctic Ocean.

Eskimos cutting up a white whale highly prized for oil and food.

Many people visualize the Arctic Ocean as a sea of ice and windblown snow, but the Arctic in the summer-time is an open sea breaking onto splendid beaches and teeming with fish and other sea life . . .



HUGE LOADS GLIDE SMOOTHLY Over the Winter Trail

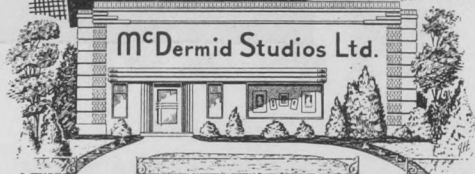
Caterpillars of this type are used to a large extent in the lumber camps of Alberta, where steady climatic winter conditions permit real ice roads to remain in place.

Between Yellowknife and Gordon Lake, mining companies are solving their transportation problems with equipment of this description.

Winter time is travel time in the North.



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With the opening of navigation *Down River* the familiar excited shouts of "STEAMBOAT"! . . . "STEAMBOAT"! will welcome the arrival of the first HBC Boat and break the monotony of the long winter at many an isolated settlement in the Far North.

The first trip *Down River* this Spring will inaugurate a new season of greater development and exploration of the vast mining Northern areas. The company's Transport System, offering an unbroken chain from Waterways to the Arctic, will be on the job as usual.

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Manager

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Agencies:

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Edmonton, Alta.

Fort Fitzgerald, Alta.
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ALBERTA

Oil Province of Canada

Within the last two years the Province of Alberta has made it possible for Canada to rank as one of the largest and most important oil countries of the world.

The potential production in January of this year was on the basis of over twelve and a half million barrels a year. A figure more than sufficient for western Canada's needs and equivalent to approximately one-third of the Dominion's requirements.

With the present extension of drilling in southern Turner Valley and in other fields, added to tests now being made in new areas which have been scientifically explored, there is every justification for assuming that the 1,000% production increase of the last two years will be repeated in a future not far distant.

The policy of the Alberta Government respecting this new and most encouraging progress is based on a consideration for the benefit of all who may be either directly or indirectly concerned with this great provincial industry. A policy which will assist to the utmost in problems of marketing and distribution, a sympathetic alliance with operators in the field and a sane and necessary conservation of gas pressures with a view to obtaining a maximum of recoveries for both the present and the future.

A programme, in other words, that may prove in the intensive development period towards which this industry is now passing to have been wisely and carefully chosen with a view to the common welfare.

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND MINES
EDMONTON

